



## OHMVR COMMISSION MEETING Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

September 25, 2015

**STAFF REPORT:** General Plans Update  
**STAFF:** Dan Canfield, Planning Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Status of General Plans for State Vehicular Recreation Areas

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### Summary

Several of the State Vehicular Recreation Areas (SVRAs) are in the process of updating their park general plans. A general plan directs the long-range development and management of a park unit by providing broad policy and program guidance. This guidance is essential to the SVRA managers and staff, and is of value to those organizations and individuals who have an interest in the SVRA. SVRAs must have an approved general plan before funding can be appropriated for any major capital outlay projects to build new facilities in a park unit.

### Discussion

Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5002.2, California State Parks is generally required to prepare general plans for units of the State Park System (e.g., SVRAs) prior to the development of new capital facilities. A table identifying the status of the SVRA general plans is provided as an attachment to this report (see Attachment 1).

Following is a brief summary of recent SVRA general plan developments.

#### ***Ocotillo Wells SVRA:***

The Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan team conducted public workshops and online exercises in spring 2015 to gather input on the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Preferred Alternative and Environmental Impact Report /Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) scoping process. Over 300 submissions were received during the public review/scoping period. A summary of the scoping comments and process has been prepared by the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan team and can be downloaded from the project website: [www.planOcotilloWells.org](http://www.planOcotilloWells.org).

Based on the key issues identified through the scoping process, the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan team is currently



preparing the Preliminary Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan (General Plan/Recreation Area Management Plan/Land Use Plan Amendment). In fact, the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan will actually be three plans in one. This planning approach is necessitated by the substantial federal land ownership component at Ocotillo Wells SVRA. To ensure compliance with both state and federal land management policies, the long-term land management plan for Ocotillo Wells SVRA will be comprised of:

- a California State Park unit General Plan,
- a Bureau of Land Management Recreation Area Management Plan, and
- a California Desert Conservation Area Land Use Plan Amendment.

An EIR/EIS will also be prepared that addresses the potential environmental impacts of the Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan, proposed alternatives, and potential mitigation measures.

The Preliminary Ocotillo Wells SVRA Plan and Draft EIR/EIS are expected to be ready for publication in 2016.

#### ***Carnegie SVRA:***

The Carnegie SVRA Preliminary General Plan and associated Draft EIR were circulated for public review and comment April 23, 2015 through June 29, 2015. The Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR are the product of a multi-year effort involving substantial public/stakeholder input and environmental analysis. It includes a series of visitor experience areas and a detailed set of goals and guidelines developed to guide operations and management of the SVRA into the future.

In excess of 1,000 comments on the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR were received from agencies, organizations, and interested members of the public. The planning team is currently reviewing all comments and preparing the Final EIR which will include official responses to all comments received and any changes proposed to the DEIR. The Preliminary General Plan will also be revised as necessary.

#### ***Prairie City SVRA:***

The Prairie City SVRA Preliminary General Plan and associated Draft EIR are expected for publication in October 2015.

#### ***Hungry Valley SVRA:***

The Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan update project is kicking off in September 2015. A Contract Task List and associated consultant budget is provided as an attachment to this report (see Attachment 2).

### **Commission Action**

For information only

### **Attachments**

Attachment 1: SVRA General Plans Update – September 2015

Attachment 2: Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan Contract Task List

**CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS****OHMVR DIVISION**State Vehicular Recreation Area General Plans Update  
September 2015

Park Unit	Adopted	Amended	General Plan (GP) Status & Updates in Progress
Carnegie SVRA	1981	-	GP update in progress. Preliminary GP/ Draft EIR published for public review and comment April 23, 2015 through June 29, 2015.
Clay Pit SVRA	2012	-	Approved by the OHMVR Commission June 2012.
Eastern Kern County, Onyx Ranch SVRA	-	-	GP process tentatively planned to begin in Fall 2016.
Heber Dunes SVRA	2011	-	Approved by the OHMVR Commission December 2011.
Hollister Hills SVRA	1978	2003	-
Hungry Valley SVRA	1981	-	GP update process kicking-off in September 2015.
Oceano Dunes SVRA	1975	1991	-
Ocotillo Wells SVRA	1981	-	GP update in progress including newly acquired properties. GP update includes federal component in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management.
Prairie City SVRA	1991	-	GP update in progress. Preliminary GP/Draft EIR planned for publication in October 2015.

# Hungry Valley SVRA General Plan Update

OHMVR Division

September 2015

<b>Contract Task List</b>	<b>Consultant Budget Amount</b>	<b>Actual Amount Expended</b>
TASK 1.0 – START-UP AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	\$501,648	
TASK 2.0 – DATA GATHERING / OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS IDENTIFICATION	\$71,513	
TASK 3.0 – COORDINATION WITH SUBCONSULTANTS	\$18,442	
TASK 4.0 – OHMVR DIVISION AND AGENCY MEETINGS	\$62,222	
TASK 5.0 – GIS RESEARCH / BASE MAP PREPARATION	\$30,705	
TASK 6.0 – EXISTING CONDITIONS AND RESOURCE EVALUATIONS	\$125,315	
TASK 7.0 – GUIDING STATEMENTS DIALOUGE	\$42,135	
TASK 8.0 – ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION	\$270,710	
TASK 9.0 – GENERAL PLAN PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	\$43,689	
TASK 10.0 – SCOPING	\$40,598	
TASK 11.0 – DRAFT GENERAL PLAN	\$140,055	
TASK 12.0 – REGULATORY AGENCY UPDATE	\$23,005	
TASK 13.0 – DRAFT EIR	\$254,842	
TASK 14.0 – REVISED DRAFT GENERAL PLAN AND FINAL EIR	\$91,664	
TASK 15.0 – FINAL GENERAL PLAN	\$50,874	
TASK 16.0 – PROJECT CLOSEOUT	\$1,366	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,768,783</b>	